

and due in the above captioned matter. Please amend the application as follows:

**CLEAN VERSION OF THE AMENDED CLAIMS:**

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3. (amended) A protective covering for protecting operative dental instruments

comprising

a sheet of thermoshrinkable material including

an end sheet having more or less the shape of a semi-circle having a first diameter and having an end diameter;

a first rectangular sheet having a first edge adjoining the end diameter and having a second edge;

a trapezoidal sheet having a narrow top having a length equal to the second edge and adjoining the second edge of the first rectangular sheet and having a wider bottom;

a second rectangular sheet having a first edge adjoining the wider bottom of the trapezoidal sheet and having a second edge;

a first wing sheet having a connecting edge attached to the second edge of the second rectangular sheet;

an opposing sheet of thermoshrinkable material including

an opposing end sheet having more or less the shape of a semi-circle having the first diameter and having the opposing end diameter;

an opposing first rectangular sheet having an opposing first edge adjoining the opposing end diameter and having an opposing second edge;

an opposing trapezoidal sheet having an opposing narrow top having a length equal to the opposing second edge and adjoining the opposing second edge of the opposing first rectangular sheet and having an opposing wider bottom;

an opposing second rectangular sheet having an opposing first edge adjoining the opposing wider bottom of the opposing trapezoidal sheet and having an opposing second edge;

an opposing wing sheet having an opposing connecting edge attached to the opposing second short of the opposing second rectangular sheet;

and wherein the first sheet is disposed opposite to the opposite sheet and wherein free edges of the end sheet, of the first rectangular sheet, of the trapezoidal sheet, and of the second rectangular sheet are joined to respective

and corresponding free edges of the opposing end sheet, of the opposing first rectangular sheet, of the opposing trapezoidal sheet, and of the opposing second rectangular sheet.

F<sup>1</sup>  
4. (amended) The protective covering for protecting operative dental instruments

according to claim 3 further comprising

an axis defined by the wing sheet and the opposing wing sheet.

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F<sup>2</sup>  
5. (amended) The protective covering for protecting operative dental instruments

according to claim 3 wherein the wing sheet and the opposing wing sheet create the possibility after operation of easy removal of the protective covering from an instrument surface by wrapping a possibly infected surface into the interior of a sleeve.

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F<sup>3</sup>  
11. (twice amended) The method of covering a dental instrument according to claim 10 further comprising

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performing the screwing motion at a distance of more than 5 centimeter

P3  
above the flame cone;

simultaneously moving the dental instrument together with the protective

covering along a plane passing through an axis of the protective covering.

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